

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of public participation in a space mission, comprising:
 - a) providing a web site or other graphical user interface for members of the public to access via the Internet or another computer network;
 - b) having a public participant input data via a dynamic web page of the web site;
 - c) altering a mission of a space vehicle in response data received as input from the public participant.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the altering of the mission includes incorporating data input by the public participant into a medium that is placed on the space vehicle.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the altering of the mission includes controlling an aspect of the space vehicle.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the space vehicle is a spacecraft.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein having the public participant input data includes having the participant enter textual data in an on-line form.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein having the public participant input data includes having the participant click or select a particular region of a display.

7. A method of public participation in a space mission, comprising:

- a) providing a server programmed to create a web site or graphical user interface accessible via the Internet or a computer network;
- b) providing a spacecraft having a public participation section;
- c) obtaining video images of said spacecraft during travel of said spacecraft on a space mission;
- d) creating an Internet or computer network broadcast of said video images;
- e) having a member of the public access and view said broadcast via a local computer over the Internet or computer network.

8. A method of public participation in a space mission, comprising:

- a) providing a server programmed to create a web site or graphical user interface accessible via the Internet or a computer network;
- b) having a member of the public access the web site via the Internet or computer network at a local computer remote from the server;
- c) having said member of the public input information via said web site;
- d) providing a spacecraft having a public participation section;
- e) physically storing said information submitted by said member of the public in said public participation section of said space craft; and
- f) launching said spacecraft away from the earth's surface.

9. The method of claims 7 or 8, further including providing personal data and/or material of individual participants physically inside said section of the spacecraft for said public participation.
10. The method of claim 7, further including providing personal body material for said public participation.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein said personal body material includes hair or skin samples.
12. The method of claim 10, wherein said personal body material includes DNA samples.
13. The method of claim 9, further including providing photo and/or video images for the public participation.
14. The method of claims 7 or 8, including launching the spacecraft on a path out of the earth's atmosphere.
15. The method of claims 7 or 8, including launching the spacecraft on a path out of the earth's solar system.

16. The method of claims 7 or 8, including launching the spacecraft on a path in orbit around the sun.

17. The method of claim 9, further including providing information in the form of data stored on a computer readable medium for the public participation.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the computer readable medium is a computer disk.